

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: July 22, 2014 Contact: Betsy Kirkeby (406) 444-3343

Public Comment Sought for 2014/2015 Montana Snowmobile Program Grant Applications

-Comments due by Sunday, August 10 at 5pm-

(Helena, MT) – Montana State Parks (<u>stateparks.mt.gov</u>) is seeking public comment on recommended funding levels for 2014/2015 Montana Snowmobile Program grant applications.

These funds support snowmobile organizations statewide for grooming, equipment, safety education, and maintenance needs. This year, the Montana Snowmobile program received 27 grant applications and all are recommended to be funded, at some level.

The Montana Snowmobile Program grant funding is administered by Montana State Parks and allocated with review and recommendations by the citizen Snowmobile Advisory Committee.

Approximately \$390,000 in grooming grant funding is available for the 2014/2015 winter season, snowmobile organization requests were more than \$500,000.

The program is funded with a percentage of the state gas tax paid by snowmobile users and snowmobile registration fees, and is completely separate from Montana State Parks funding sources and revenues.

A list of the proposed 2014-2015 snowmobile grant applicants and recommended funding levels is available online at http://stateparks.mt.gov/recreation/snowmobileGrants.html.

Public comments are due by Sunday, August 10 at 5pm.

To comment online, visit direct link: http://stateparks.mt.gov/news/publicNotices/snowmobile-grants/pn 0002.html or go to the website: stateparks.mt.gov click on 'Public Notices' on the right-hand task bar.

The public can also <u>email</u> comments to <u>snowmobilegrants@mt.gov</u> or send comments by regular mail to: Snowmobile Program Grants c/o Montana State Parks, P.O. Box 200701, Helena, MT 59620-0701.

The full grant applications are available for review by request in the Parks' Division office at the Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks Headquarters - located at 1420 East 6th Ave., in Helena, Montana 59620. Contact: Seth McArthur, Montana Snowmobile Program Manager (406) 444-3753.

For more information about the Montana Snowmobile Program visit: http://stateparks.mt.gov/recreation/snowmobileProgram.html

Join us in celebrating Montana State Parks 75th Anniversary in 2014! Visit Montana State Parks (<u>stateparks.mt.qov</u>) and enjoy camping, hiking, fishing, swimming, boating and more and discover some of the greatest natural and cultural treasures on earth.

SUBWAY® restaurants in Montana are the official sponsor of Montana State Parks in 2014. <u>Like us on FB!</u> and receive a free SUBWAY® coupon and a chance to win one of six \$25 gift card packages that include Montana State Parks gear/apparel.

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